

Appl. No. 09/629,085
Amdt. dated February 23, 2005
Reply to Office Action of December 27, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 12 and 14 to 36 were pending in the Application at the time of examination. The Examiner objected to the Specification. The Examiner objected to Claims 2 to 7, 9 to 12, 14 to 18, 22 to 28, 32, 35 and 36 for informalities. The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 20, 24, 26, 27, 32 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001). The Examiner rejected Claims 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001) in view of the Traynor reference (US 6,263,403). The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001) in view of the Schimmel reference (US 6,105,113). The Examiner indicated Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 28, 32 and 36, without prejudice. Applicant has amended Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35 to put these Claims in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Consequently Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35 remain in the Application.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Examiner objected to the Specification. In particular, the Examiner objected to the Specification in light of the wording of Claim 8.

As shown above, Claim 8 has been cancelled, without prejudice. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits the objection to the Specification is now moot.

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OBJECTION TO THE CLAIMS

The Examiner objected to Claims 2 to 7, 9 to 12, 14 to 18, 22 to 28, 32, 35 and 36 for informalities.

As shown above, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 28, 32 and 36, without prejudice. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the objection to Claims 2 to 7, 9 to 12, 14 to 18, 22 to 28, 32 and 36 is now moot.

With respect to Claim 35, as shown above, Claim 35 has been amended. In light of the amendment to Claim 35, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the objection to Claim 35.

REJECTIONS BASED ON 35 U.S.C.102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 20, 24, 26, 27, 32 and 36 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001).

As shown above, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 28, 32 and 36, without prejudice. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 20, 24, 26, 27, 32 and 36 is now moot.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 28
BASED ON 35 U.S.C.130(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001) in view of the Traynor reference (US 6,263,403).

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As shown above, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 28, 32 and 36, without prejudice. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 9, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 21 and 28 is now moot.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, AND 25 BASED ON 35 U.S.C.130(a)

The Examiner rejected Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over the Wu et al. reference (US 5,906,001) in view of the Schimmel reference (US 6,105,113).

As shown above, Applicant has cancelled Claims 1 to 28, 32 and 36, without prejudice. Consequently, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of Claims 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 14, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, and 25 is now moot.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner indicated Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended Claim 29 to put Claim 29 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claims (none).

Applicant has amended Claim 30 to put Claim 30 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claims (Claim 2).

Applicant has amended Claim 31 to put Claim 31 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 1) and any intervening claims (Claim 3).

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Applicant has amended Claim 33 to put Claim 33 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 20) and any intervening claims (none).

Applicant has amended Claim 34 to put Claim 34 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 20) and any intervening claims (Claim 21).

Applicant has amended Claim 35 to put Claim 35 in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim (Claim 20) and any intervening claims (Claim 22).

In light of the amendments to Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35, and the Examiner's statements, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35.

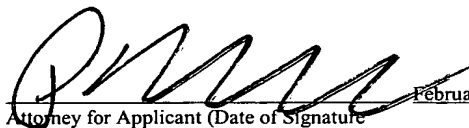
CONCLUSION

In light of the discussion above, Applicant respectfully requests allowance of remaining Claims 29, 30, 31, 33, 34 and 35.

If the Examiner has any questions relating to the above, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned Attorney for Applicant.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on February 23, 2005.



Attorney for Applicant (Date of Signature)

February 23, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



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